Withdrawal of the objections to the drawings is respectfully requested.

SPECIFICATION

The specification is amended, taking into consideration the Examiner's comments regarding Fig. 5.

Regarding the Examiner's objection to change "uniform resource locator" to "universal resource locator" as the long form of acronym URL on page 11, line 21, the Applicants assert that the correct long form of URL is "uniform resource locator" as provided in a dictionary on computer science or the Internet. A copy of the definition of URL in a typical dictionary is attached hereto for reference convenience. Therefore, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

DISTINCTIONS OF THE CLAIMED PRESENT INVENTION OVER THE PRIOR ART

The present invention provides a document reviewing apparatus for reviewing a document by a plurality of reviewers. These reviewers, for example, can be located at remote places, or on different floors of the same building. Each reviewer possesses a document reviewing apparatus and all document reviewing apparatuses are connected to each other via a network. Each document reviewing apparatus includes a communication unit for performing communication with the other document reviewing apparatuses. The determination unit determines whether information received from another document reviewing apparatus is information relating to review of a document being reviewed (review result). When the determination unit determines that the received information is the information relating to review of the document (review result), then such information (review result) is stored in the memory. Thus, information relating to review of the document received from the other document reviewing apparatuses is accumulated in the memory. The creating unit combines the received information relating to review of the document (combines review results) to create a single review result. Thus, the information created by the creating unit represents a result on the review of the document undertaken by a plurality of reviewers. A benefit is that many reviewers can review the document efficiently and easily by using a single review result.

PRIOR ART

Cahill

Cahill discloses a method and apparatus for displaying an image of a check having a

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front side and a back side. Cahill discloses scanning the check and acquiring images of the front and back sides of the check. Moreover, the scanned images of the check are displayed on a display screen for the user. The user visually checks the displayed images of the check. Thus, Chaill relates to a different field of invention than the present claimed invention.

The 'check' of Cahill cannot be the 'document' of the present invention, because, many reviewers do not review the check of Cahill. In contrast to Cahill, in the claimed present invention many reviewers review a document. Moreover, the memory of Cahill stores images of the check. In contrast to Cahill, the memory of the present invention stores information relating to document review received from the other document reviewing apparatuses. Moreover, Cahill does not disclose or suggest the present invention's "creating unit," which creates an information that is a combination of the document review information accumulated in the memory.

More particularly, in contrast to Cahill, the present invention (as recited in claims 1, 6 and 8) is directed to a document review apparatus that receives document review results for a document and combines the received review results to create "a single review result." Thus, Cahill cannot anticipate claims 1, 6, and 8.

Mahmood and Combination of Cahill and Mahmood

Mahmood discloses a fully automatic parking facility management system, which determines when a vehicle is at a facility entrance, stores the locations of vacated facility parking spots, determines the location of a desirable vacated parking spot in relation to either the facility entrance or the facility exit and prints a parking record for the customer including the computed location (Abstract). As explained above, the present invention relates to an apparatus for reviewing documents. Similar to Cahill, Mahmood also does not relate to the field of the claimed present invention and there does not appear to be relevance between parking of cars disclosed by Mahmood and reviewing of documents in the present invention. In particular, there is no suggestion in Cahill and there would be no motivation to combine a technology for checking checks taught by Cahill with a technology for parking cars. The Applicants respectfully assert that one cannot obtain a technology for reviewing documents by combining the technology for checking checks with the technology for parking cars.

More particularly, in contrast to a combined system of Cahill and Mahmood, the present invention (as recited in claims 2, 7 and 9) is directed to a document review apparatus that receives document review results for a document from reviewers at other document review apparatuses via a network, creates statistical data based upon the received review results, and updates the reviewed document based upon the statistical data. Thus, claims 2, 4, 5, 7 and 9

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are patentable over the combination of Cahill and Mahmood.

Linstead

Linstead discloses a method for providing an indication of the occurrence of events within a database system. In contrast to Linstead, the present invention (as recited in claim 3) is directed to a document review apparatus that receives <u>document review results</u> for a document <u>from notified reviewers</u> at other document review apparatuses via a network, creates statistical data <u>based upon the received review results</u>, and updates the reviewed document based upon the statistical data.

RECITATION OF THE CLAIMS

In contrast to the foregoing references, the present invention (as recited in each independent claim 1, 6 and 8, using the recitation of claim 1 as an example) comprises

> a determination unit which determines, based on information received from said communication unit, whether the information is information <u>holding a review result of a reviewed form</u> to be reviewed;
>
> a storing control unit which stores information, which has been determined by the determination unit to be information holding a review result of a reviewed form, as review result information in said memory unit; and
>
> a creating unit which <u>creates a single review result information based on the review result information when a predetermined number of review result information have been stored in said memory unit</u> (emphasis added).

New claim 10 provides an alternate recitation of the present invention. In contrast to the foregoing references, the present invention (as recited in each independent claim 2, 7, 9 and new claim 10, using the recitation of claim 2 as an example) comprises

> a determination unit which determines, based on information received from said communication unit, whether the information is <u>information holding a review result of a reviewed form to be reviewed</u>;
>
> a storing control unit which stores information, which has been determined by the determination unit to be information holding a review result of a reviewed form, as review result information in said second memory unit;
>
> a creating unit which creates <u>statistical data</u> relating to the review result information <u>when a predetermined number of review result information from the plurality of reviewers have been stored</u>

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in said second memory unit; and

an updating unit which <u>updates the contents of the</u> <u>reviewed form</u> stored in said first memory unit <u>by using the</u> <u>statistical data created by said creating unit</u>.

New claim 10 provides an alternate recitation of the present invention. In contrast to the foregoing references, the present invention as recited in new independent claim 10 comprises a programmed processor:

to transmit the document <u>to users that review the document</u> via a network, to receive <u>document review results from the users</u> via the network, to <u>generate statistical data based upon the review</u> <u>results</u>, and to <u>update the document based upon the statistical</u> <u>data</u> (emphasis added).

Support for the new claim 10 can be found, for example, on page 11, lines 3-13; page 19, lines 11-19.

CONCLUSION

Dependent claims 3-5 (depending, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1) are at least patentably distinguishing due to their dependencies from independent claim 1.
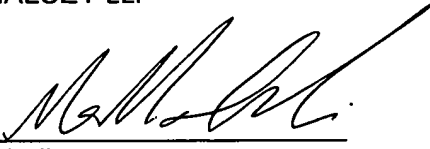
In view of the remarks presented above, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-9 and allowance of claims 1-9 and new claim 10 is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims and the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**."

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,
STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 10/18/2001

By: _____
Mehdi Sheikerz
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning at page 13, line 2, is **AMENDED** as follows:

Thereafter, the document review apparatus 10 appends phrase numbers to each phrase of each article comprising the reviewed form, specified by the input reviewed form identification information (step S102). Next, the document review apparatus 10 registers the reviewed form and the response format in a WWW server (the apparatus itself) so that reviewed form and the response format, which phrase numbers have been appended to, can be read by the URL input in [step 101] steps S101 and S103. That is, by performing an operation (browser activation and URL input) to an apparatus comprising a web browser, a reviewed form, which phrase numbers are appended to, such as that shown in Fig. 6, and the response format, such as that shown in Fig. 3, can be displayed on the display of the apparatus. Incidentally, in Fig. 6, the numerals shown above the phrases comprising the articles are the phrase numbers appended in step S102.

IN THE CLAIMS

Recitation of all pending claims is provided for reference convenience.
New claim 10 is **ADDED** as follows.

1.   (AS UNAMENDED) A document review apparatus comprising:
a communication unit connected to a network for performing communication with other devices;
a memory unit;
a determination unit which determines, based on information received from said communication unit, whether the information is information holding a review result of a reviewed form to be reviewed;
a storing control unit which stores information, which has been determined by the determination unit to be information holding a review result of a reviewed form, as review result information in said memory unit; and
a creating unit which creates a single review result information based on the review result information when a predetermined number of review result information have been stored in said

memory unit.

2.   (AS UNAMENDED) A document review apparatus comprising:

a communication unit connected to a network for performing communication with other devices;

a first memory unit which stores a reviewed form which is to be reviewed by a plurality of reviewers;

a second memory unit;

a determination unit which determines, based on information received from said communication unit, whether the information is information holding a review result of a reviewed form to be reviewed;

a storing control unit which stores information, which has been determined by the determination unit to be information holding a review result of a reviewed form, as review result information in said second memory unit;

a creating unit which creates statistical data relating to the review result information when a predetermined number of review result information from the plurality of reviewers have been stored in said second memory unit; and

an updating unit which updates the contents of the reviewed form stored in said first memory unit by using the statistical data created by said creating unit.

3.   (AS UNAMENDED) The document review apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

a notification unit which notifies the plurality of reviewers that a reviewed form to be reviewed is stored in said first memory unit; and

a transmission unit which, when information having a predetermined format and comprising address information has been received by said communication unit, uses said communication unit to transmit information which corresponds to the reviewed form stored in said first memory unit to a device identified by said address information.

4.   (AS UNAMENDED) The document review apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

a display unit for displaying textual information; and

an input unit for inputting commands, wherein

said updating unit including,

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a display control unit which allows said display unit to display the contents of the reviewed form stored in said first memory unit in a format enabling an update result using statistical data created by said creating unit to be understood; and

a contents updating unit which updates the contents of the reviewed form stored in said first memory unit based on a command which is input via said input unit while said display control unit is controlling the display.

5.   (AS UNAMENDED) The document review apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

a second display control unit which allows said display unit to display a graph based on the statistical data created by said creating unit.

6.   (AS UNAMENDED) A document review system comprising:

a plurality of document review apparatuses; and

a network which connects said plurality of document review apparatuses, wherein

each of said document review apparatus including,

a communication unit connected to a network for performing communication with other devices;

a memory unit;

a determination unit which determines, based on information received from said communication unit, whether the information is information holding a review result of a reviewed form to be reviewed;

a storing control unit which stores information, which has been determined by the determination unit to be information holding a review result of a reviewed form, as review result information in said memory unit; and

a creating unit which creates a single review result information based on the review result information when a predetermined number of review result information have been stored in said memory unit.

7.   (AS UNAMENDED) A document review system comprising:

a plurality of document review apparatuses; and

a network which connects said plurality of document review apparatuses, wherein

each of said document review apparatus including,

a communication unit connected to a network for performing communication with other

devices;

a first memory unit which stores a reviewed form which is to be reviewed by a plurality of reviewers;

a second memory unit;

a determination unit which determines, based on information received from said communication unit, whether the information is information holding a review result of a reviewed form to be reviewed;

a storing control unit which stores information, which has been determined by the determination unit to be information holding a review result of a reviewed form, as review result information in said second memory unit;

a creating unit which creates statistical data relating to the review result information when a predetermined number of review result information from the plurality of reviewers have been stored in said second memory unit; and

an updating unit which updates the contents of the reviewed form stored in said first memory unit by using the statistical data created by said creating unit.

8.   (AS UNAMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium which stores programs for allowing a computer to operate as a document review apparatus, said document review apparatus including,

a communication unit connected to a network for performing communication with other devices;

a memory unit;

a determination unit which determines, based on information received from said communication unit, whether the information is information holding a review result of a reviewed form to be reviewed;

a storing control unit which stores information, which has been determined by the determination unit to be information holding a review result of a reviewed form, as review result information in said memory unit; and

a creating unit which creates a single review result information based on the review result information when a predetermined number of review result information have been stored in said memory unit.

9.   (AS UNAMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium which stores programs for allowing a computer to operate as a document review apparatus, said document

review apparatus including,

a communication unit connected to. a network for performing communication with other devices;

a first memory unit which stores a reviewed form which is to be reviewed by a plurality of reviewers;

a second memory unit;

a determination unit which determines, based on information received from said communication unit, whether the information is information holding a review result of a reviewed form to be reviewed;

a storing control unit which stores information, which has been determined by the determination unit to be information holding a review result of a reviewed form, as review result information in said second memory unit;

a creating unit which creates statistical data relating to the review result information when a predetermined number of review result information from the plurality of reviewers have been stored in said second memory unit; and

an updating unit which updates the contents of the reviewed form stored in said first memory unit by using the statistical data created by said creating unit.

10.   (NEW) A computer system, comprising:

a programmed processor to store a document, to transmit the document to users that review the document via a network, to receive document review results from the users via the network, to generate statistical data based upon the review results, and to update the document based upon the statistical data.

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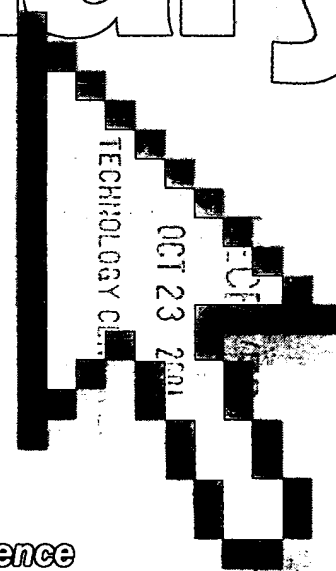Over
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)ther in pairs, the
:tion from inter-
:tic fields. Conse-
be used only over
)axial cable, ribbon

TP.

1. *See* UTP.

:r client program, to
:t of newsgroups to
.ewsgroup. **2.** To re-
mailing list. *See also*

ystems in addition to
ual files out of an
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.ve file that has been
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roduct Code. A sys-
:oducts using bar
its: a number system
;igned to the manu-
e assigned by the
:heck digit. *See also*

:isting software prod-
lds relatively minor
:ects errors (bugs)
ased. Updates are
nges in software ver-
4.0. See also ver-

r a data file to make

; process, the stage
is checked for com-
ied for distribution.
are downflow, in-

upgrade¹ *n.* The new or enhanced version of a product.

upgrade² *vb.* To change to a newer, usually more powerful or sophisticated version.

uplink *n.* The transmission link from an earth station to a communications satellite.

upload¹ *n.* **1.** In communications, the process of transferring a copy of a file from a local computer to a remote computer by means of a modem or network. **2.** The copy of the file that is being or has been transferred.

upload² *vb.* To transfer a copy of a file from a local computer to a remote computer. *Compare* download.

UPP *n. Acronym* for Universal Plug and Play. A Microsoft initiative, introduced in 1999, for interconnecting computers, appliances, networks and services. UPP extends conventional Plug and Play to include devices connected to networks, to allow peripheral devices to discover and connect to other devices, and to enumerate the characteristics of those devices. UPP is designed to be an element of home networking, in which PCs, appliances, and the services they provide are linked together.

uppercase *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characterized by capital letters. *Compare* lowercase.

upper memory area *n. See* UMA.

upper memory block *n. See* UMB.

UPS *n.* Acronym for uninterruptible power supply. A device, connected between a computer (or other electronic equipment) and a power source (usually an outlet receptacle), that ensures that electrical flow to the computer is not interrupted because of a blackout and, in most cases, protects the computer against potentially damaging events, such as power surges and brownouts. All UPS units are equipped with a battery and a loss-of-power sensor; if the sensor detects a loss of power, it switches over to the battery so that the user has time to save his or her work and shut off the computer. *See also* blackout, brownout.

upstream¹ *n.* The direction in which information is delivered from a client to a (Web) server. *Compare* downstream¹.

upstream² *adj.* **1.** The location of a server in relation to another server. *Compare* downstream² (definition 1). **2.**The direction in which data moves *from* an individual computer *to* the remote network. With certain communications technologies, such as ADSL, cable

modems, and high-speed 56-Kbps modems, data flows upstream more slowly than *downstream*. For example, a 56-Kbps modem can deliver data at a 56-Kbps maximum only downstream; upstream, it delivers data at either 28.8 or 33.6 Kbps. *Compare* downstream² (definition 2).

uptime *n.* The amount or percentage of time a computer system or associated hardware is functioning and available for use. *Compare* downtime.

upward-compatible *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a computer product, especially software, designed to perform adequately with other products that are expected to become widely used in the foreseeable future. The use of standards and conventions makes upward compatibility easier to achieve.

urban legend *n.* A widely distributed story that remains in circulation in spite of the fact that it is not true. Many urban legends have been floating around the Internet and other online services for years, including the request for cards for the sick boy in England (he's long since recovered and grown up), the cookie or cake recipe that cost $250 (it's a myth), and the Good Times or Penpal Greetings virus, which will infect your computer when you read an e-mail message (it does not exist). *See also* Good Times virus.

URC *n. See* Uniform Resource Citation.

URI *n. See* Uniform Resource Identifier.

URL \∂rl, U`R-L`\ *n.* Acronym for Uniform Resource Locator. An address for a resource on the Internet. URLs are used by Web browsers to locate Internet resources. A URL specifies the protocol to be used in accessing the resource (such as http: for a World Wide Web page or ftp: for an FTP site), the name of the server on which the resource resides (such as // www.whitehouse.gov), and, optionally, the path to a resource (such as an HTML document or a file on that server). *See also* FTP¹ (definition 1), HTML, HTTP, path (definition 1), server (definition 2), virtual path (definition 1), Web browser.

URN \U`R-N`\ *n. See* Uniform Resource Name.

usable *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the ease and adaptability with which a product can be applied to the performance of the work for which it is designed. A high degree of usability implies ease of learning, flexibility, freedom from bugs, and good design that does not involve unnecessarily complicated procedures.

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